

REMARKS

Claims 2-4, 9-13, 17, 27, 29, 30, 32, 34, 35, 37, 39, 40, 42, 45-62, and 64-76 remain pending in this application. Based on the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 10, 37, 39, 49, and 50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,176,855 issued to Heckeles et al. ("Heckeles"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, since Heckeles does not disclose, teach, or suggest the combination of elements required by these claims, as amended.

In particular, independent claim 10 has been amended to include the limitation of claim 48, which the Examiner indicated as reciting patentable subject matter. As such, Applicant believes that independent claim 10, as well as the claims depending therefrom (claims 37, 39, 49, and 50), are not obvious over Heckeles, and as such, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of these claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant graciously acknowledges the allowance of claims 2-4, 9-13, 17, 27, 29, 30, 32, 34, 35, 42, 45-47, 51-62, and 64-73. In accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, objected to claim 48 has been rewritten as independent claim 10, and objected to claim 40 depends from amended claim 10.

Conclusion

Based on the foregoing, it is believed that all claims are now allowable and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments

regarding this amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (949) 724-1849.

Respectfully submitted,

VISTA IP LAW GROUP LLP

Dated: April 13, 2007

By: 

Michael J. Bolan
Reg. No. 42,339

Customer No. 23410
Vista IP Law Group LLP
2040 Main Street, 9th Floor
Irvine, CA 92614